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Polar Science Support

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LONG-TERM GOAL

To provide logistics support and project infrastructure for Arctic and Antarctic field programs.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this project is to assist ONR in implementing its research goals in the Arctic. The primary obligation under this grant is to provide logistical support to the University of Washington, as well as other national and foreign ONR-sponsored investigators.

APPROACH

The objectives are met by assuming major responsibilities in the area of planning, coordination, and management of field programs. This included the procurement of logistical equipment and supplies, contracting for services such as ship and aircraft support, and hiring temporary field personnel. This also includes aspects of communications, data management and meeting support. Additionally, the grant maintains a substantial oceanographic and logistics equipment pool for use by ONR-sponsored investigators.

WORK COMPLETED

During the past year, time was devoted primarily to the planning and preparation for the North Pole Environmental Observatory, a five-year field project involving the sampling of environmental parameters in the north polar region. Additional effort was devoted to communications, management and meeting support for the final year of SHEBA Phase 2.

RESULTS

The first phase of this program was carried out from April 15-27, 2000. The many facets of this and other operations supported through this grant allowed us to continue to provide sponsors and interested parties with expertise in the area of Arctic and Antarctic logistics and with project infrastructure.